



Please insert on page 1 between the title of the application and the first paragraph the following new paragraph:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

B
This application is filed under the provisions of 35 USC §371 and claims the priority of International Patent Application No. PCT/DE99/02977 filed September 14, 1999, which in turn claims priority of German Patent Application No. 198 42 557.0 filed September 17, 1998.

REMARKS

This claim to priority is being filed within four (4) months of August 22, 2001 the date when the above-identified application met all requirements under 35 U.S.C. §371. Also, applicants claimed priority to International Patent Application No. PCT/DE99/02977 and German Patent Application No. 198 42 557.0 when the above-identified application was filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office as evidenced by the enclosed filing receipt.

Respectfully submitted,

Marianne Fuierer
Registration No. 39,983
Attorney for Applicants

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY/
TECHNOLOGY LAW
P. O. Box 14329
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
Phone: (919) 419-9350
Fax: (919) 419-9354
Attorney File: 4197-102

RECEIVED
JAN 08 2002
TC 1700